



NEWS

AMERICANS FOR TAX REFORM

1920 L Street, NW • Suite 200 • Washington, DC 20036
202.785.0266 • Fax 202.785.0261

WWW.ATR.ORG

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
6 JULY 2004**

**CONTACT: Jonathan Collegio
Elizabeth Karas
202-785-0266**

Alabama House Passes Resolution Urging Congress to End the Abuse of Tort Law against the Firearms Industry

Rep. Gaines calls for congressional action.

WASHINGTON- **The Alabama House passed a resolution calling on Congress to end the abuse of tort laws against the firearms industry.** Today, Americans for Tax Reform (ATR), the nation's leading taxpayer advocacy group, praised Alabama Representative Mark Gaines (R-46) for his aggressiveness in supporting reform to end the abuse of tort law against the firearms industry.

ATR's State Legislative Advisory Project was launched in 2001 in an effort to help give state legislators a louder voice in federal policymaking. In the project's first year, twenty-seven states passed resolutions urging their congressional delegations to support the Economic Growth Tax Relief Reconciliation Act. As of June, 2004, state legislators have already introduced 159 different resolutions in 40 legislative bodies in 25 states and passed 64 different resolutions in 23 legislative bodies in 16 states.

“Ending the abuse of tort law against the firearms industry is a priority for any American concerned about liberty and freedom from a government too ready to impose more restraints on law-abiding citizens,” said taxpayer advocate Grover Norquist, president of ATR. **“Anti-gun activists are using taxpayers’ money to sue the gun industry in an under-handed attempt to bankrupt a lawful industry.”**

Rep. Gaines's resolution reminds Alabama's congressional delegates that the firearms manufacturers should not be liable for any harm caused by misuse or by unlawful use of products that function as designed and intended.

Norquist praised Rep. Gaines's efforts. **“State legislators are intimately involved with their districts and their constituents. They should not shy away from offering valuable insight into the federal lawmaking process. Citizens in Alabama are lucky to have a leader like Rep. Gaines who is willing to lead the legislature in just such a direction.”**

Americans for Tax Reform (ATR) is a non-partisan coalition of taxpayers and taxpayer groups who oppose all federal, state and local tax increases. For more information or to arrange an interview, please contact Jonathan Collegio at (202) 785-0266 or at jcollegio@atr.org.